

February and photographed the nest, during which time I noticed that besides the two adults who fed the young many times, a third bird in juvenile plumage fed the nestlings four times over a period of two hours. I believe this to be the first record of co-operative nesting behaviour in the Little Wood-Swallow.

—JOHN ESTBERGS, Helena Valley.

**Graphium Butterflies at Koolan Island.**—The butterflies of Koolan Island were recorded by Koch and van Ingen (1957, *W. Aust. Nat.*, 11: 98). A species of papilionid to add to this list is *Graphium enrypylus nyctinus* (Waterhouse and Lyell, 1914). Two specimens were collected by Mr. F. C. van Ingen at Koolan Island, W.A., one on 28 December 1973, the other on 4 January 1974. They are lodged in the Western Australian Museum (W.A.M. Reg. Nos. 74/1082-3).

The distribution of *Graphium enrypylus*, which has some thirteen subspecies, includes India, southern China, southern Japan, south-east Asia, New Guinea and northern and eastern Australia. *G. e. nyctinus* was previously known from Darwin and Groote Eylandt. The only other subspecies in Australia is *G. e. lycan* which occurs from Cape York to Sydney.

—L. E. KOCH, Western Australian Museum.

**Incursion of Painted Finches into the North-Eastern Goldfields.**—1973 was a drought breaking year in the north-eastern goldfields and North-eastern Division, with some localities recording double their average rainfall. A trip across the centre, through the Warburton Ranges to Alice Springs in August-September, was through a carpet of vegetation the whole way.

The Painted Finch (*Zonaeigithus pictus*) was noticed at various localities in Western Australia and the Northern Territory, from Gahnda Rock Hole (Yowalga 1: 250,000 map) eastwards, making me familiar with a bird I had not seen before. Thus it was with great interest I observed this bird on three occasions soon after returning to Leonora, and once early in 1974.

Locations and dates of observations are listed below and are occasions where positive identification, by observation through 7x50 binoculars, was made. Maps referred to are Department of National Mapping 1:250,000 series.

Date	Map	Grid Reference	Number
18 September, 1973	Menzies	429365	2 birds
9 October, 1973	Leonora	371412	4 birds
9 October, 1973	Menzies	354403	2 birds
4 February, 1974	Leonora	435417	15 birds

Thus this irruption south and west of the bird's usual range has led to sightings 37 and 50 miles west of Leonora, at Gwalia (2½ miles south of Leonora) and 29 miles ENE of Menzies. No doubt this movement was facilitated by abundant surface water and feed throughout the whole area.

—DON REID, Gwalia.

**An Observation of the White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*) in Western Australia.**—About May 1971 Messrs. I. Cooke and W. A. Gibb, then of the Waterfowl Research unit of the Department of Fisheries and Fauna, Perth, sought my help in identifying a strange black-and-white passerine bird that they had recently seen in the Katanning district (250 km SE of Perth).

The bird was a little smaller than a White-winged Triller (*Lalage sueurii*) and looked like a miniature Magpielark (*Grallina cyanoleuca*). It was found in Douglas's Swamp, 15 km WNW of Woodanilling. While Cooke and Gibb were describing the bird I made an 'identikit' drawing of it. The forehead, face, throat, lower breast and abdomen were white;

the back of the head and upper breast were black; the wings were black marked with white; and the tail was black except for an outer strip of white extending to the tip.

In our discussion on the identity of the bird, all black-and-white Australian species were considered but finally rejected. Though the identification of the bird seemed insoluble, I retained the 'identikit' drawing.

About two years later, when consulting Smythies' *Birds of Borneo*, the figure of the White Wagtail on plate XXVIa instantly reminded me of the Woodanilling bird. I compared this figure with my drawing and found the two practically identical. I now have no doubt that the bird seen by Cooke and Gibb belonged to one or another of the east Asian subspecies of *Motacilla alba*. All the latter are migratory, most birds spending the northern winter in northeastern India and southern China, a few individuals extending to the Indo-Chinese countries and the Philippines but seldom further south.

—G. M. STORR, Western Australian Museum, Perth.

**Additions to the Kalbarri Bird List.**—Following the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union Camp of 1948 at the mouth of the Murchison River, a list of birds known to occur there was published in *Emu*, 48: 212. Further species—Golden Plover, White-headed Stilt, Little Corella and Variegated Wren—were recorded by K. Buller, *W. Aust. Nat.*, 2: 82 and a reference to Budgerygahs appears in *W. Aust. Nat.*, 3:37.

I was at Kalbarri from June 18 to 21, 1974 and noted the following species additional to those listed in the sources mentioned above:

Crested Pigeon, *Ocyphaps lophotes*. A flock of at least three birds was flushed between Murchison House Station and the access road to Kalbarri.

Bustard, *Eupodotis australis*. This was reported to the R.A.O.U. party by residents, but not sighted. I encountered one bird between the gorge at Z Bend and the access road to Kalbarri.

Redthroat, *Pyrholaemus brunneus*. One bird was encountered at The Loop. This was perched on a small tree and was singing vigorously. It permitted a close approach and was viewed through binoculars in a good light. In the same area a Black-eared Cuckoo, *Chrysococcyx osculans* was calling. This species favours the Redthroat as a host.

Little Wood-Swallow, *Artamus minor*. This bird was not seen by the R.A.O.U. party, but is mentioned in *Birds of Western Australia*, Serventy and Whittell, as occurring in the Murchison gorges. We saw several in flight at The Loop and encountered several resting on the road to Hawkhead Lookout. One was slow in taking evasive action and was nearly struck by the windscreen of our vehicle. In the Northern Territory, I found Little Wood-Swallows given to sitting on roads, but had not previously seen this practice in Western Australia.

—ERIC. H. SEDGWICK, Harvey.

**Birds and the Total Eclipse—Observations from Albany.**—Birds are not numerous on Mt. Clarence at Albany even though most of it is covered with quite thick scrub. Before the eclipse began, on June 20, 1974, and during the early stages of it there was no bird song to be heard as is quite usual during the middle of the day. As the light from the sun grew less the slight wind became colder and four or five Yellow-winged Honeyeaters (*Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*) called briefly, answering each other, then were silent for a few minutes and a couple called again. Then a family group of Splendid Wrens (*Malurus splendens*) gave a brief twitter just below the brow of the mountain and Kookaburras (*Dacelo gigas*) were heard giving evensong in the distance.

There was no further song during the total eclipse and bird life seemed to resume its normal tenor as the light improved again without